

Research Ireland Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers - Ukraine

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Terms of Reference

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All responses to this Call for Submission of Proposals will be treated in confidence and no information contained therein will be communicated to any third party without the written permission of the applicant except insofar as is specifically required for the consideration and evaluation of the proposal or as may be required under law, including the Research and Innovation Act 2024 and the Freedom of Information Acts 1997, (Amendment) 2003 and 2014.

During the application process or at any time following the conclusion of the application process and decision, Research Ireland may contact the Research Body, the Principal Investigator or any member of the Research Team concerning funding opportunities, Research Ireland activities or any events, or for the purposes of monitoring and evaluation including but not limited to collecting scientific data and data related to the applications process. Research Ireland may choose to authorise a third party to contact the Research Body, the Principal Investigator or any member of the Research Team on its behalf.

Introduction

Taighde Éireann – Research Ireland is the national research and innovation funding agency, which was established on the 1st August 2024, building on the previous work of Science Foundation Ireland and the Irish Research Council. Research Ireland is an agency of the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science working in collaboration with Higher Education Institutions and other state agencies such as the Higher Education Authority (HEA), IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland.

Research Ireland has a statutory duty to support research excellence and talent across all disciplines spanning the AHSS and STEM fields. This expanded remit represents a significant evolution, establishing Research Ireland as a unified agency that can fund across the full spectrum of research endeavour—from curiosity-driven research that generates new knowledge to applied research that seeks to develop solutions and innovations.

The Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers from Ukraine supports talented displaced Ukrainian researchers under Temporary Protection in Ireland. This initiative enables Ukrainian researchers across all career stages to join existing Research Ireland-funded projects that align

with their expertise and interests. The programme provides supplemental funding for Research Ireland grant holders to host Ukrainian researchers within their teams up to the end of the Temporary Protection Directive.

Scope and Objectives of the Rapid Response Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers from Ukraine

Science and scholarly research relies upon the exchange of ideas through peaceful cooperation. In line with the Government of Ireland's response, Research Ireland condemns in the strongest terms the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation in violation of international law. Following the outbreak of war in Ukraine and the resulting refugee crisis, Ireland's research funders have been engaging collaboratively on developments, in particular relating to how researchers from Ukraine who are arriving in Ireland due to the war can be supported by the Irish research system. Among the first steps taken by the IRC, the Health Research Board (HRB) and Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) was to issue a statement on 19 March 2022 supporting the government adding its signature to the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) statement condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

In 2022, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and the Irish Research Council (IRC) each launched supplemental grant schemes to support Ukrainian researchers under Temporary Protection in Ireland. These initiatives enabled researchers across all career stages to join existing SFI- and IRC-funded projects that aligned with their expertise and interests. Following the establishment of Research Ireland in August 2024, the two separate schemes were unified into a single, streamlined programme: the Research Ireland Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers, to provide supplemental funding for Research Ireland grant holders to host Ukrainian researchers within their teams up to the end of the Temporary Protection Directive in March 2026.

In a continued effort to help tackle the humanitarian and economic loss, Research Ireland is reopening the supplemental grant scheme. The scheme aims to encourage and enable holders of existing Research Ireland grants, and their associated Host Institutions, to provide opportunities for displaced researchers from Ukraine to join and collaborate on existing Research Ireland - funded grants across all disciplines. This initiative is intended to help researchers integrate swiftly into the Irish research system, to enable them to maintain continuity in their research work and to bring added benefit to the Research Ireland grant from their expertise.

Applications are open to Principal Investigators of existing Research Ireland funded grants to provide relevant research positions to displaced researchers from Ukraine at any stage of their research career.

Application Overview

Research Ireland aims to support researchers from Ukraine that have been displaced due to the Russian invasion. The purpose of the application form for this Rapid Response Call is to capture:

- (i) Primary Grant information.
- (ii) Proposed activities to be undertaken by the incoming Researcher, including skills development and alignment of their objectives and deliverables to the primary grant.

(iii) Information and supporting documentation relating to the career stage and relevant experience of the incoming Researcher.

(iv) Duration and start date of the supplemental grant.

Additional Application Details

<i>ELIGIBILITY OF RESEARCH BODY</i>	The Research Body of the Lead Applicant is the body responsible for the overall financial and administrative co-ordination of research programmes supported by funding from Research Ireland. The research body must also provide assurance that the space and infrastructure to carry out the proposed research are available for the duration of the supplemental grant.
ELIGIBLE GRANTS	Applications are welcomed from Principal Investigators on active Research Ireland grants of scale. Exceptions include, but may not be limited to, Research Infrastructures Awards, Discover Awards, Public Service Fellowship Awards, Industry RD&I Fellowship Awards, Enterprise Fellowship Awards, New Foundations Awards, Ulysses Awards and Government of Ireland Fellowship Awards. The Host Institution for the Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers will be the same as for the active Research Ireland grant.
APPLICATION LIMIT	The Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers is limited to one application per existing Research Ireland grant. Where the existing grant support is in excess of €5m, multiple applications may be considered.
DEADLINE	This programme will remain open until further notice. Notification of closure of the call will be made at least one week in advance through the Research Ireland website. Research Ireland will accept applications at any time while the call remains open and will endeavour to issue grants as soon as possible thereafter for successful applications.
GRANT DURATION	These supplemental grants will be issued for a maximum period of one year and a minimum period of three months.
ELIGIBLE COSTS	<p>Eligible costs in this scheme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salary-related costs for research staff (see further details below). • Materials and consumable costs up to a maximum of €2,000. • A contribution of up to €2,000 towards the purchase of a computer in the case of new supplemental awards. Extensions to existing supplemental grants are not eligible for further equipment costs. <p>Research Ireland will contribute to the indirect costs of the research through an overhead payment in accordance with the overhead rate of the parent award of Total Direct Costs (excludes equipment costs). Grants will have a duration of up to 12 months. The duration of the supplemental grant cannot exceed the expiration date of the host grant.</p> <p>SALARY COSTS The total funding per grant will largely be determined by one of the three appropriate salary scales listed below. Eligible costs include gross salary, an Employer's PRSI contribution at 11.05% of gross salary and pension provision</p>

	<p>up to a maximum of 20% of gross salary. The level of employer contribution should be in accordance with Research Ireland’s Grant Budget Policy¹.</p> <p>Applicants must use one of the following three salary scales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Ireland will fund a contribution to the salary of Research Assistants at the Team Member Budget Scale, Research Assistant Point 1. • Research Ireland will fund a contribution to the salary of Postdoctoral Researchers at the Research Ireland Team Member Budget Scale, Level 2A Point 1. • For senior team members who have unique and essential skills, Research Ireland may fund a contribution to the salary of a Research Fellow at the Research Ireland Team Member Budget Scale Level 3 Point 1. <p>Research Ireland will consider contributions to Research Fellow positions only where such an appointment is justified within the application form and through the supporting documentation (see below). Further detail on budget categories and Staff can be found in Research Ireland’s Grant Budget Policy¹.</p> <p>The Host Institution will review and administer the Research Ireland grant funding and is responsible for compliance with the grant conditions (inclusive of Research Ireland’s General Terms and Conditions, ² Letter of Offer and Research Ireland’s Policy documents³</p>
<p>APPLICANT TEAM</p>	<p>The Lead Applicant is the Principal Investigator of the host grant and will serve as the primary point of contact for Research Ireland during the review process and on the supplemental grant, if successful. The Lead Applicant will be responsible for the overall direction of the research programme associated with this supplemental grant and the submission of reports to Research Ireland. He/she has primary fiduciary responsibility and accountability for carrying out the research within the funding limits granted and in accordance with the Research Ireland grant conditions Lead Applicant eligibility is determined by the eligibility of the original Research Ireland grant.</p> <p>Funded Personnel: The individuals supported by this supplemental scheme need to be located in the Republic of Ireland and to provide a copy of their permission letter from the Department of Justice in Ireland confirming Temporary Protection has been granted under the EU Directive.</p> <p>Responsibility for determining an individual’s academic and professional qualifications and checking the legal requirements for the integration of named researchers rests with the Host Institutions.</p>

¹ [Financial - Research Ireland](#)

² [Research Ireland General Terms and Conditions](#)

³ [Policies - Research Ireland](#)

<p>HOW TO APPLY</p>	<p>Interested PIs should email displacedresearchers@researchireland.ie with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Applicant name • Proposal ID of the parent award to which the Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers from Ukraine will align to • Total funding of the parent award • Parent award start and end dates • Proposed start and end date of the displaced researcher <p>Following an eligibility check, applicants will be given instructions on how to submit a full application.</p>
<p>SUPPLY OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</p>	<p>Additional information that is required beyond the completion of the Application Form is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A permission letter from the Department of Justice in Ireland confirming Temporary Protection has been granted under the EU Directive⁴. 2. A Letter of Support from the hosting HEI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indicating that the space and infrastructure to carry out the proposed research are available and, • endorsing the salary scale of the Researcher 3. A CV outlining the incoming Researchers experience and background including a short list of publications, if appropriate. (A narrative CV⁴ is preferable, however it is not essential).

State Aid and Research Ireland Grant Funding

As per Research Ireland’s grant conditions (inclusive of Research Ireland’s General Terms & Conditions, Letters of Offer and Research Ireland Policy documents), all Research Ireland funding granted is subject to, and must be compliant with, State aid legislation based on Article 107(1) of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).⁵

Namely, research activities undertaken as part of a grant awarded under the Research Ireland Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers from Ukraine, and agreed to subject to Research Ireland’s grant conditions, must be “non-economic” in nature and be designed to ensure that any funding received does not, directly or indirectly, give rise to the granting of State aid.

Where recipients of grant funding engage with an ‘undertaking’ or industry party, under the Research Ireland Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers from Ukraine they are required to demonstrate compliance with the conditions of “effective collaboration” and that the conditions relating to the allocation between the parties of the results and/or intellectual property rights arising from the collaboration comply with one of the conditions set out in paragraphs 29 and 30 (as appropriate) of the 2022 Framework for State aid for research,

⁴ [Information on Temporary Protection for People fleeing the conflict in Ukraine - Immigration Service Delivery](#)

⁵ [Commission Notice on the notion of State aid as referred to in Article 107\(1\) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](#)

development and innovation (2022/C 414/01) (the “Framework”)⁶ For further guidelines please see <https://www.Research Ireland.ie/funding/Research Ireland-policies-and-guidance/state-aid/>.

Review Process

Given the urgency to support displaced Ukrainian researchers, Research Ireland will endeavour to review all applications as quickly as possible and will include input from agency staff.

Applications will be initially checked for eligibility by Research Ireland staff members. Following the initial eligibility check, applicants will be given instructions on how to submit a full application. Each eligible application will undergo an in-house review process by Research Ireland staff.

As the active grants have already been peer reviewed, the application for a supplement grant largely focuses on information on the incoming researcher to be incorporated into a project and the case for how this will add value to the project funded through the primary grant.

Research Ireland staff will conduct the review of applications in accordance with the following criteria:

- Does the incoming researcher have the appropriate experience and the potential to add value to the original Research Ireland-funded project?
- Does the incoming researcher have the appropriate experience and skillset for the requested salary scale and to deliver the proposed programme of work? Alignment between the researcher and proposed project should be demonstrated.
- What plans are in place to integrate and support the incoming researcher into the research team and the project, and details of other relevant supports such as language classes and skills development opportunities?

Roles and responsibilities of the displaced researcher to be funded through this grant must be differentiated and clear.

Grant Management

The State has made a significant investment via Research Ireland into scientific research and, as such, it is the responsibility of Research Ireland to monitor the progress and outcomes of all funding it administers. All Research Ireland grant holders are required to report on outputs and impacts arising from their research programme for the duration of their grant and for up to five years after the grant end (close) date. The progress reporting requirements for grants made under the Research Ireland Rapid Response Mechanism –Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers include the completion of an Annual Report and Research Ireland Research Outputs (formerly referred to as the Research Ireland Census). The annual report is used to monitor the progress of individual grants against the overall objectives. Each of the Research Ireland Rapid Response Mechanism –Supplemental Grant for Displaced Researchers from Ukraine call objectives, with expected outputs, is discussed in turn below:

⁶ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2022.414.01.0001.01.ENG

OBJECTIVE: To encourage and enable Research Ireland grant holders of existing Research Ireland grants, and their associated Host Institutions, to provide opportunities for displaced researchers from Ukraine to join and collaborate on existing Research Ireland-funded grants.

EXPECTED OUTCOME: Displaced Ukrainian researchers become valued members of Irish society through contributing to the research ecosystem. The employment of qualified displaced Ukrainian researchers will somewhat mitigate the humanitarian and economic loss caused by the war in Ukraine.

OBJECTIVE: To integrate displaced Ukrainian researchers into Research Ireland-funded projects, so that they may gain valuable research experience, relevant to their field of expertise.

EXPECTED OUTCOME: Displaced researchers from Ukraine will achieve continuity in their research career. The displaced researcher will learn and develop new knowledge and skills, relevant to their field of expertise, from their colleagues in the Research Ireland-funded research group. Integration of the displaced researcher will also build the networks of all researchers involved in the Research Ireland-funded project.

OBJECTIVE: The displaced Ukrainian researcher will add significant value to the research project.

EXPECTED OUTCOME: The knowledge and skills of the displaced Ukrainian researcher will have a positive impact on the progress of the Research Ireland-funded (parent) project and/or its outcome, contributing to, for example research papers, conference proceedings and/or training of students.

Research Ireland's Policies and Positions

In addition to complying with Research Ireland's grant conditions, which are inclusive of those outlined in the Letter of Offer and Research Ireland's General Terms & Conditions, applicants are expected to be familiar and consult with Research Ireland policies/positions⁷ and with all relevant national policies when preparing their application to any Research Ireland programme and in conducting their programme of research. All team members should be appraised of relevant policies, which may be revised from time to time.

⁷ [Policies - Research Ireland](#)